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This Issue

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WRIGHT STARTS KLUSMAN RECALL

The Outfall Sewer Muddle

An Editorial

Taxpayers, don't be fooled. Opponents to the outfall sewer, located principally in San Pedro and Los Angeles, are needlessly alarmed over the state of the taxpayers in the Metropolitan Sewer District, who are not fooled in the least nor will they be fooled as to the merits of an outfall sewer as opposed to an activated sludge plant.

Arguments presented by the small organized group which is opposing the construction of the outfall sewer refute themselves. Without going further afield for data to show the weakness of their position, reference can be made to their paid advertisement published last week in this newspaper, whose columns are always open to the proponents or opponents of any measure to afford the citizen an opportunity to study a proposition from all angles, regardless of the avowed policy of this newspaper which reserves the right to take its stand for or against a measure and present its reasons for so doing.

Proposition No. 1, of the published advertisement states: "The disposal plant at Poggi Ranch is here to stay. If the proposed outfall sewer is constructed, this plant will be enlarged." No doubt the disposal plant at Poggi Ranch is here to stay. There must be some location where sedimentation can take place. That the Poggi Ranch plant will be enlarged is another matter. At present, the sewage which passes through the Poggi Ranch plant is required under the authority of the state health commission to undergo certain treatment before the waste waters are released into the Nigger Slough to find their way through the Cerritos channel into the harbor and the ocean. After the solids have been precipitated, the effluent which contains a large amount of offensive gas must be aerated to release these gases under control so that the offensive odors of which the residents of Wilmington and Harbor City complained several months ago may be properly combated in the plant. Aerating is done by forcing oxygen into the water. Huge blowers, operated by electric power, force fresh air into the effluent FROM BELOW, 16 feet beneath the surface of the water, at a cost of THOUSANDS of dollars paid to the Southern California Edison Company every month. At present seven or eight hours time is required to prepare the effluent for discharge into Nigger Slough. When the outfall sewer has been completed so that effluent can be discharged directly into the ocean, the aerating process will be no longer necessary, the power costs will be saved, and the time for sedimentation will BE REDUCED to one hour, thus INCREASING THE CAPACITY of the present plant to seven or eight times its flow.

The increased volume of sewage that will be carried when all of the cities in the district are hooked up to the plant, would necessarily INCREASE the cost of an activated sludge plant, and this cost would steadily increase in proportion to the volume of sewage until the limit of the plant had been reached, when it would be necessary, should the volume of sewage still be increasing, to ENLARGE the plant at a considerable cost to the people of the district, and more expense for monthly maintenance and operation.

Where would the money for this added expenditure, in the event that such plant enlargement became necessary, be secured. Obviously by another BOND ISSUE, which the opponents of the outfall sewer are holding up as a bogeyman before the eyes of the members of the sanitation districts as a possible prospect should the outfall sewer be built.

Other costs which now operate to make the treatment plant at the Poggi Ranch an unsatisfactory proposition are those which affect all industrial plants in the district. Industrial waste, which contains corrosive acids and other chemicals, can not now be discharged into the Metropolitan Sewer System, although it has been subjected to an EXPENSIVE PROCESS of treatment at the plant to destroy the effects of the chemicals, which kill the biological life on which the activated sludge process depends. The Columbia Steel Company, located in Torrance, is now spending LARGE SUMS of money every month to treat its industrial waste which, even with this treatment, is not permitted to pass into the Metropolitan Sewer system because of its deleterious effect on the sludge. Torrance, as a measure of protection to its industries, can not countenance the adoption of any plan for the disposal of sewage which DOES NOT PERMIT the industries present and prospective to discharge their waste into the Metropolitan Sewer system without this EXPENSIVE AND UNECONOMIC tax on their resources. Money that now must be spent for sewage treatment should be released for other industrial purposes, such as the payment of wages, or the purchase of material and equipment.

No cities which are using the activated sludge process of disposal, such as Pasadena and Pomona, PERMIT THE PASSAGE of industrial waste through their plants. At Pasadena, it was found necessary AT THE OUTSET of the use of their plant to disconnect several industries whose wastes prevented successful operation. At Pomona, waste water from a paper mill and during the canning season

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MAYOR WANTS \$15 A MONTH CAR EXPENSE

Klusman Asks \$150 Compensation For Past 10 Months. Wright Opposes.

Mayor W. T. Klusman presented a bill for \$150 to the city council Tuesday evening, covering 10 months' gasoline and oil expense on the mayor's personal car at \$15 per month. The statement acknowledged an \$11 credit for money already paid the mayor, showing a balance of \$139 to March 1, 1933.

Councilman Wright opposed the payment of a flat sum each month to Mayor Klusman for automobile expenses, stating that under the law, it was necessary for the mayor to present an itemized statement for any expenses and have the money appropriated before it was spent.

Councilman Conner defended the mayor, saying he regarded it an injustice to expect the mayor to spend his personal funds in attending to meetings about the county. "Regardless of what the people may think of the accomplishments of these trips, and in the face of the fact that a proposition providing for councilmen's pay was recently defeated by the people, I still contend there is some provision in the law whereby the mayor or other councilmen can be compensated," Conner stated.

When asked for his opinion, City Attorney Jensen stated that under the law, city councilmen cannot receive pay, but are allowed to receive expenses. Jensen questioned whether the city auditor would permit a definite amount to be paid each month.

"How about referring it to the auditor?" asked Councilman Hitchcock.

"The auditor doesn't run the city's affairs!" replied Mayor Klusman.

Councilman Ludlow informed the mayor that the council was trying to find a legal way of paying the bill, and on Ludlow's motion the matter was referred to the city attorney for conference with the auditor and presentation at the next meeting.

As the city's official representative on the Metropolitan Sewer District's board of directors, Mayor Klusman receives a minimum of \$25.40 per month for attending the two regular meetings of the sewer board, and may receive as high as \$60 per month and expenses if special meetings are held.

Mayor Klusman's request for \$15 a month automobile expense, if allowed, will set a precedent in local municipal customs, as previous councilmen have paid their own car expenses. Former Mayor John Dennis received no compensation for his automobile expenses during the entire six years of his term.

Municipal Park To Be Enlarged

Additional Lots Adjoining Arlington Site to Be Purchased

The purchase of .38 acre additional land adjoining the new municipal park on Arlington avenue was indicated Tuesday evening when the city council authorized City Attorney Jensen to draft the necessary papers for completing the deal. The lots lie between Lincoln and Arlington avenues, and will be secured from the Torrance Oil & Development Company through J. C. Smith of the Torrance Investment Company. A total purchase price of \$800 was agreed upon, with a down payment of \$200. The balance will be paid under the lease and option-to-purchase plan similar to the manner in which the park is being purchased from J. W. Post, trustee.

A resolution asking the county for an additional \$1100, covering 350 man days' labor to be used in park development was also passed by the council. The funds will be used to furnish work for unemployed.

Let's Give Him Our United Support



LOCAL BANKS SURPRISED BY 3-DAY HOLIDAY

Conditions in Torrance Have Show Improvement During Recent Weeks

The three-day legal holiday proclaimed last night by Governor Rolph and mandatory on all banks in the state, came as a complete surprise to J. W. Post, president of the First National Bank, and J. W. Leech, manager of the Bank of America branch here. When interviewed this morning by the Herald, both bank executives stated that financial conditions in Torrance had shown considerable improvement during the past few weeks, due probably to increased employment, and they were much surprised to learn of the governor's proclamation.

Governor Rolph declared the holiday was solely for the protection of depositors who had lost faith with the banks and not withdrawn their funds during the past week. He requested J. W. McKinley, chairman of the senate banking committee, and Ray Williamson, chairman of the assembly banking committee, to hasten the enactment of remedial legislation through the three-day holiday so that banks opening Monday will have added protection from persistent withdrawals.

It is assumed by those close to the banking situation, that the California legislature will follow the procedure of other states which have had banking holidays and permit withdrawals up to 5 per cent in a given period.

Expect Decision City Water Bond Suit On Mar. 10

A decision is due March 10 from the state supreme court on the city's \$400,000 municipal water bond suit. City Attorney Jensen informed the city council Tuesday evening.

Mayor Klusman stated that the special water committee had held a number of preliminary meetings, but was awaiting the outcome of the suit before taking any definite action toward constructing or acquiring a municipal water system.

Day of Prayer Observed Friday

Observance of the World Day of Prayer will be held in Torrance tomorrow with a union service at the First Methodist church, at 1:30 p. m. Dr. Remfrey Hunt of Los Angeles will be the speaker. All are invited to attend this meeting.

High School Students Move To Retain Donahue As Coach

Threatened with the loss in mid-season of their athletic coach, high school students, under the leadership of Bill Parke, president of the Key Club and past president of the Student Body, have initiated a move to petition the city school board to reconsider their decision regarding Coach Bernard J. Donahue.

Coach Donahue has been faced with an alternative of taking an enforced vacation of 11 weeks or transfer to another school in order to defer the application of the teachers' tenure law which provides that a teacher's job becomes permanent as soon as the individual has completed three years of probation.

The students have prepared a document which sets up sound reasons why Coach Donahue should be retained in Torrance which they will circulate for signature among the business men and citizens of Torrance. The Torrance Chamber of Commerce has announced that it will back up the young people of the community to the extent of sending a delegation to appear before the board when the petition is presented, and do all they can to bring about the result that the student body desires.

The text of the petition is as follows: "We the undersigned request the continued employment of Mr. Bernard J. Donahue as Coach and Athletic Instructor at Torrance High School for the following reasons: "First: Mr. Donahue has developed character, school spirit and a sense of loyalty in Torrance High School that has been lacking in the past. "Second: He has the only one-man department in the city and the bringing in of a new man would bring new ideas that would not be fair to the students for they would probably have to change back again later. "Third: Mr. Donahue does not come up for permanent tenure until 1934. "Fourth: He has cut down almost 100% the destruction of school property that has been very prevalent in the past. "Fifth: He has brought many student body activities out of the red by careful supervision. "Sixth: He has improved greatly the discipline of the school which has been lacking in the past."

Following a raid by a county dry squad on Tuesday night, February 28, William O. Gould, 2347 E. 259th street, Harvey Doyle, 2515 So. Oak street, and William J. Hansen, 2150 E. 259th street, all of Lomita, were placed under arrest on charges of selling liquor. Deputy Sheriff R. Jurgenson signed the complaint against each defendant and Deputies Deborn, Jurgenson, Osborn and Sewright, of Capt. Ray Morris' liquor detail, were listed as witnesses.

First Arrest Under County Dry Law Made

Three Men Taken In County
Raid In Lomita
Tuesday

This is the first arrest made under the county ordinance No. 650, termed the "Little Volstead Act," which provides a maximum penalty of \$300 or 90 days, or both. Gould, Hansen and Doyle pleaded guilty to the charge when they appeared before Judge John Dennis Wednesday afternoon. Each was fined \$100 or 50 days, Hansen and Gould being committed to jail in default of payment. Doyle paid his fine.

Plan To Park Torrance Blvd. Is Progressing

City Indicates Agreement
With Pacific Electric Is
Satisfactory

Beautification of Torrance boulevard was brought a step nearer to realization Tuesday evening, when the city council instructed City Attorney Jensen to draft the necessary legal papers for acceptance of the Pacific Electric Railway's offer to lease the railroad's right-of-way for park purposes. Plans as agreed upon between the city council and D. W. Pontius, president of the Pacific Electric, call for the widening of each pavement three feet and the planting of shrubs, flowers and grass in the parking space between the two roadways. Answering the objections of merchants on the boulevard, the council suggested that the parking space in front of store buildings might be graveled instead of planted, so that patrons of the merchants could park their cars in the center of the street, as at present.

In lieu of the railroad company leasing its right-of-way for park purposes to the city for one dollar a year, the city agrees to forfeit its reversionary rights on the highway. It is expected that the formal agreement with the Pacific Electric will be authorized at the next meeting of the council.

COUNCILMAN CHARGES MAYOR "DESTRUCTIVE, UNTRUTHFUL"

Action for the recall of Mayor Wm. T. Klusman was begun today by Councilman Joseph M. Wright, who authorized the publication of a "Recall Notice and Statement Relating to William T. Klusman," which is the first procedure under the state statute for the recall of municipal officers.

Question Mayor On His Vote At Sewer Meeting

Council Decided to Send Attorney and Engineer With Klusman Hereafter

Following prolonged questioning directed at Mayor W. T. Klusman by other members of the city council Tuesday night regarding the mayor's voting at a recent meeting of Sanitation District No. 5, held to hasten the construction of the outfall sewer, the council instructed City Engineer Leonard and City Attorney Jensen to accompany Klusman at future meetings held by the district sewer board. Members of the council also indicated that they would also attend the sanitation district meetings with the mayor.

A committee from Bell, consisting of Mayor M. L. Kinney and Councilmen Plunkett and Fisher, was present at the Torrance council meeting and explained many features not previously understood by the Torrance council. Mayor Kinney stated that the substitute resolution adopted by District No. 5, and which was favored by Mayor Klusman together with Directors Randall and Shaw of Los Angeles, "seems to be a political move instead of an honest-to-goodness business action." Kinney stated that the district had been threatened with a lawsuit, but that none had been filed and said, "I am not worried about them." He also stated that enough money was available to finish the job and that the funds could not be used except for the construction of the outfall.

For Outfall
Mayor Klusman reiterated his claim that he voted with the Los Angeles directors in order to keep out of the courts, but added that he had no objection to the resolution adopted by districts 1 and 2, and that he was in favor of the outfall sewer.

Wright Criticizes
Councilman Wright criticized Mayor Klusman for not voting in accord with resolutions adopted by the city council and the Chamber of Commerce. Councilman Conner pointed out that future development of Torrance industries depended upon the immediate construction of the outfall sewer and that so far very little progress had been made since the taxpayers voted bonds five years ago.

Four or Five Months
Under the state law governing recalls of municipal officers, it will require from four to five months before an election can be held. The notice of intention published in today's Herald is the first legal step. A copy of this printed notice must be served upon or sent to Mayor Klusman by registered mail, and an affidavit of such service filed with the city clerk. Within 14 days, Mayor Klusman may publish an answer, not to exceed 500 words. After 21 days, the petition may be circulated and must contain both charges and the answer. Signatures of at least 25 per cent of the entire number of votes cast for the office at the last preceding regular election must be secured. The petition must be filed with the city clerk within 60 days from the publication of the notice of intention.

A. K. Warren to
Speak At Club
Meeting Mar. 6

Democratic Club Presents
Chief Engineer of Sewer
District

A. K. Warren, chief engineer of the Metropolitan Sewer system, will be the speaker at the meeting of the Democratic Club, to be held Monday evening, March 6, at Earl's Cafe.

The meeting, which will be called to order at 8 o'clock, will be non-political, and an invitation is extended to the public to attend.

Mr. Warren will speak on the outfall sewer situation, and will probably have some important data to give to the people of Torrance which is a member of the Metropolitan Sewer District. Entertainment will be provided by the Betty Elroy dance revue.

Hyde Is Appointed Chairman of Harbor Affairs Committee

Carl L. Hyde, former secretary of the Torrance Chamber of Commerce, was honored this week with the appointment of chairman of the harbor affairs sub-committee of the Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce. The appointment was made by Wm. Brent, chairman of the Los Angeles chamber's Metropolitan area committee.